



# NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP GATHERING: **Parks and Open Space System Plan**

October 7, 2021

# *Welcome!*



Bellevue Parks &  
Community Services



# NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP GATHERING: **Parks and Open Space System Plan**

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## THIS EVENING'S AGENDA

- Welcome!
- Mayor Lynne Robinson's Comments
- Director Michael Shiosaki: Parks & Community Services
- Audience Polls
- Explanation of Parks and Open Space System Plan
- Breakout Rooms
- Themes and Key Takeaways from Breakout Rooms
- Next Steps





# NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP GATHERING: **Parks and Open Space System Plan**



Welcome from  
**MAYOR LYNNE ROBINSON**



# NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP GATHERING: **Parks and Open Space System Plan**



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Bellevue Parks &  
Community Services

**MICHAEL SHIOSAKI**  
Director





Bellevue Parks &  
Community Services

**Neighborhood  
Leadership Gathering**

**October 7, 2021  
Michael Shiosaki, Director**



# Department Mission



Bellevue Parks &  
Community Services

We **build a healthy community** through an integrated system of exceptional parks, natural areas, recreation, arts and culture, and a broad base of community services.

# Bellevue Parks & Community Services:

- Is Nationally Accredited Since 2005
  - Met 100% of standards in 2020
- Has received the **National Gold Medal** for excellence
- Enjoys regular resident support:
  - ☐ 67% approval on the latest voter initiative (2008)
  - ☐ 93% of residents rate overall satisfaction as **Good** or **Excellent**





# Equity: A System of Fairness

**Equity acknowledges and removes disparities in opportunities, power, and resources so that everyone can reach their full potential to thrive.** Bellevue Parks & Community Services practices equity, which is the responsibility of every individual in the department.

**Equitable access is a right, not a privilege, and is fundamental to our mission of serving all people.** Through equitable policies and practices, we cultivate ties that connect people to the fabric of our community.



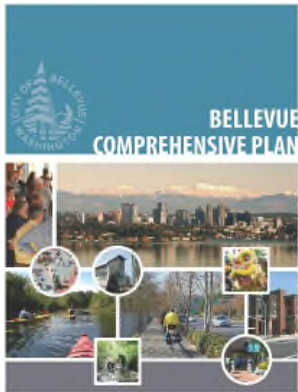


## **Fun Facts about Your City In a Park**

- ▶ **2,700 Acres (70% natural areas)**
- ▶ **77 Parks**
- ▶ **44 Playgrounds**
- ▶ **5 Community Centers**
- ▶ **97 miles of trails**
- ▶ **85 miles of landscaped Right of Way**
- ▶ **23,000 program registrations**
- ▶ **1,126 picnic reservations**
- ▶ **16,000 field rentals**
- ▶ **2,500 program choices**



# Guiding Principles



**City of Bellevue  
Comprehensive  
Plan**



**Parks & Open  
Space System  
Plan**



**Department  
Strategic  
Plan**



**Recreation  
Program  
Plan**



**Human  
Services  
Needs Update**

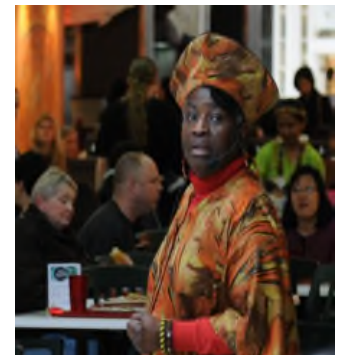


**Department  
Diversity  
Strategic Plan**



# Department Programs

- Community Recreation
- Park & Facility Maintenance
- Natural Resource Management
- Acquisition, Planning & Capital Development
- Family, Youth and Teen Services
- Park Enterprise Services
- Human Services
- Probation Services



# Boards & Commissions

- Parks & Community Services Board\*
- Human Services Commission\*
- Probation Advisory Board
- North Bellevue Community Center Advisory Board
- Bellevue Network on Aging
- Youth Link Board^

\* Appointed by City Council

^ Appointed by City Manager





# How does the work get done?

- 168 full time positions
- 500-600 temporary/seasonal employees
- Contract services: ~60% of maintenance tasks
- 5,000+ volunteers contribute over 100K hours of service annually
- Community partnerships
- Annual Budget: \$53.1M Expenditures • \$11M User Fee Revenue



# Partnerships

- Bellevue Botanical Garden Society
- Bellevue Downtown Association: Magic Season & 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- Bellevue Youth Theatre Foundation
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue
- Eastside Heritage Center
- Master Gardeners
- Pacific Science Center
- Youth Eastside Services
- YMCA
- Eastside Pathways
- Bellevue School District





# Opportunities



- Remain a City in a Park with increasing urbanization
- Meet the needs of an increasingly diverse population
- Inspire civic engagement
- Enhance our parks to reflect contemporary trends
- Respond to the needs in our community

*Parks & Open Space System Plan helps make opportunities a reality*



# Discussion

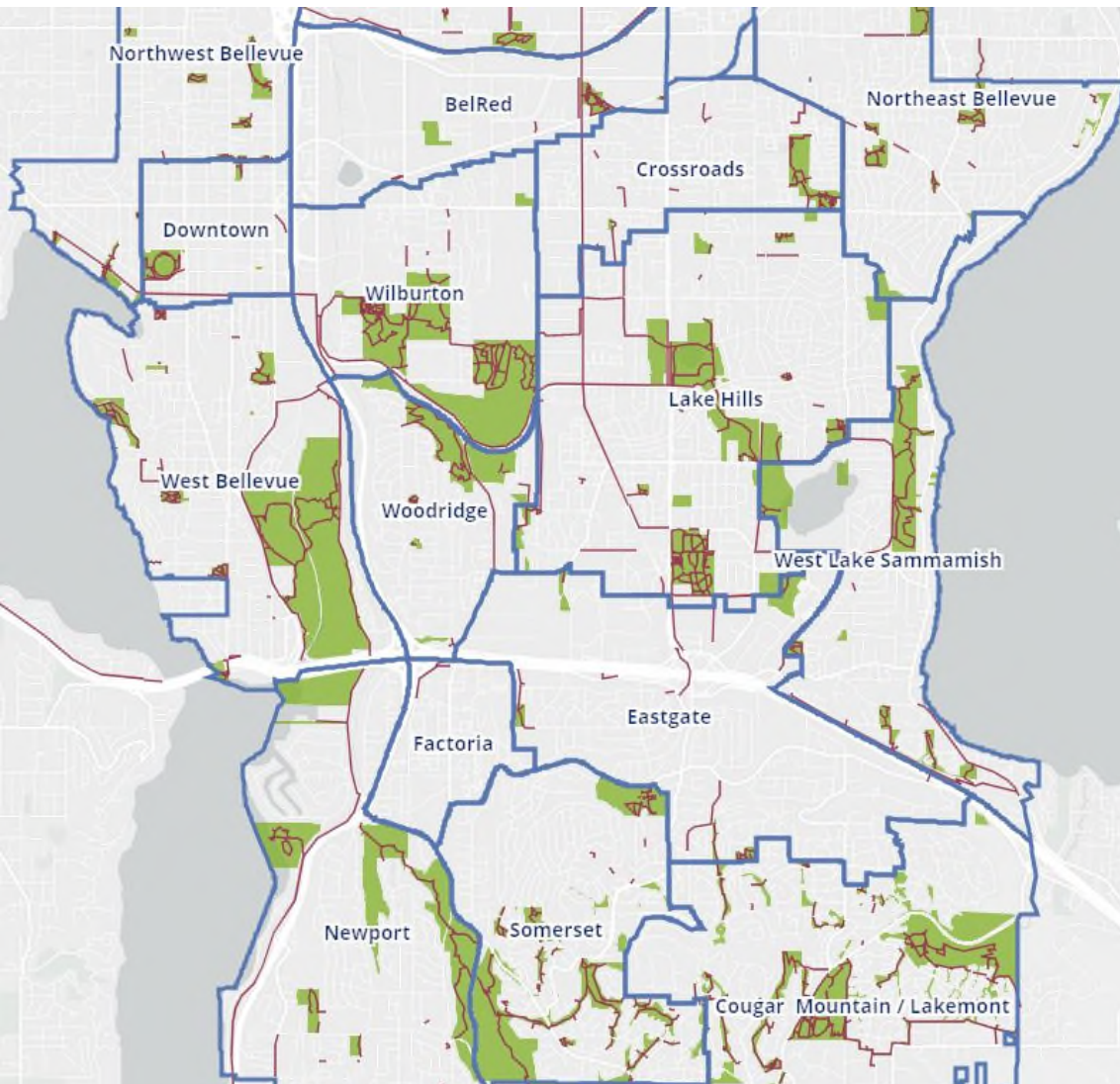






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**AUDIENCE POLLS**



# 2022 Parks & Open Space System Plan Update

## NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP GATHERING

October 7, 2021



Bellevue Parks &  
Community Services

**RYAN WALKER**

Planner



City of Bellevue

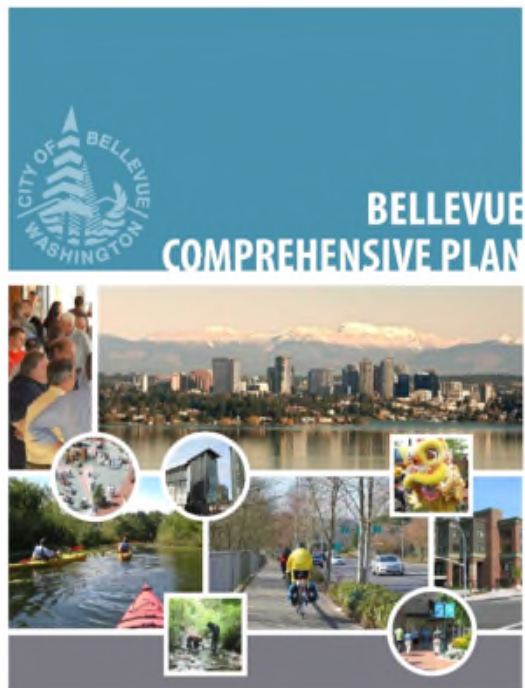


# What is the Parks and Open Space System Plan?

- ~20-year plan, updated every 6 years
- Long-range guidance for acquisition, development, and enhancement based on community needs
- Hold the big ideas
- Required for accreditation and some grants



# Parks System Planning





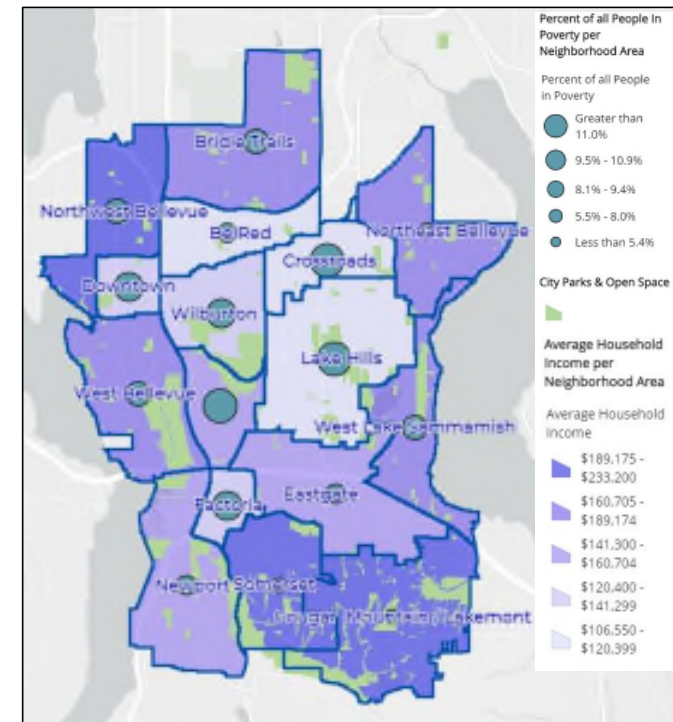
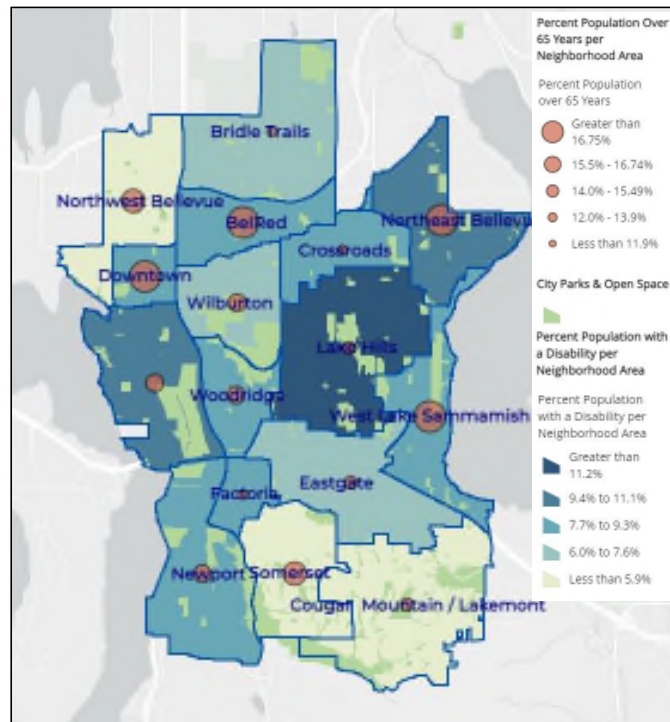
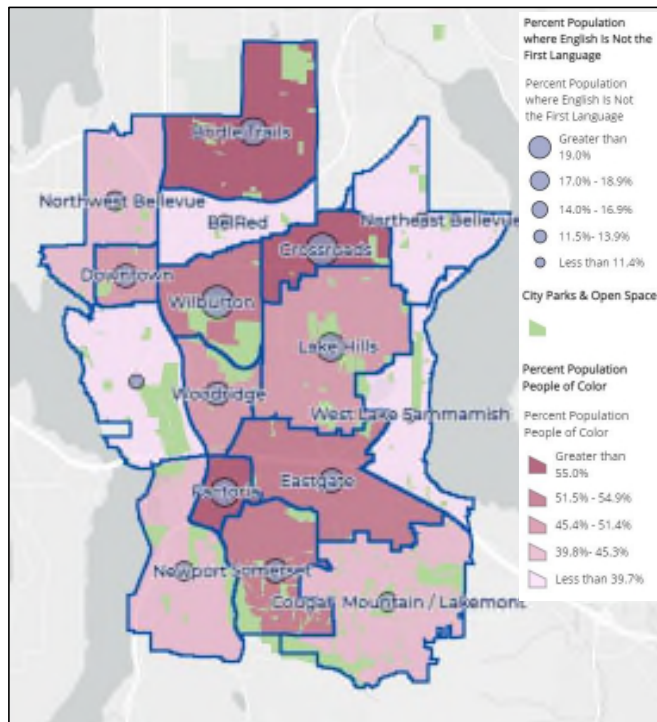
# Focus Areas

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- **Open Space, Greenways, Wildlife Corridors, & Trails**
- **Park Facilities**
- **Active Recreation Facilities**
- **Urban Park Systems**
- **Waterfront Access**
- **Partnership Opportunities**
- **Historic, Cultural, & Art Resources**



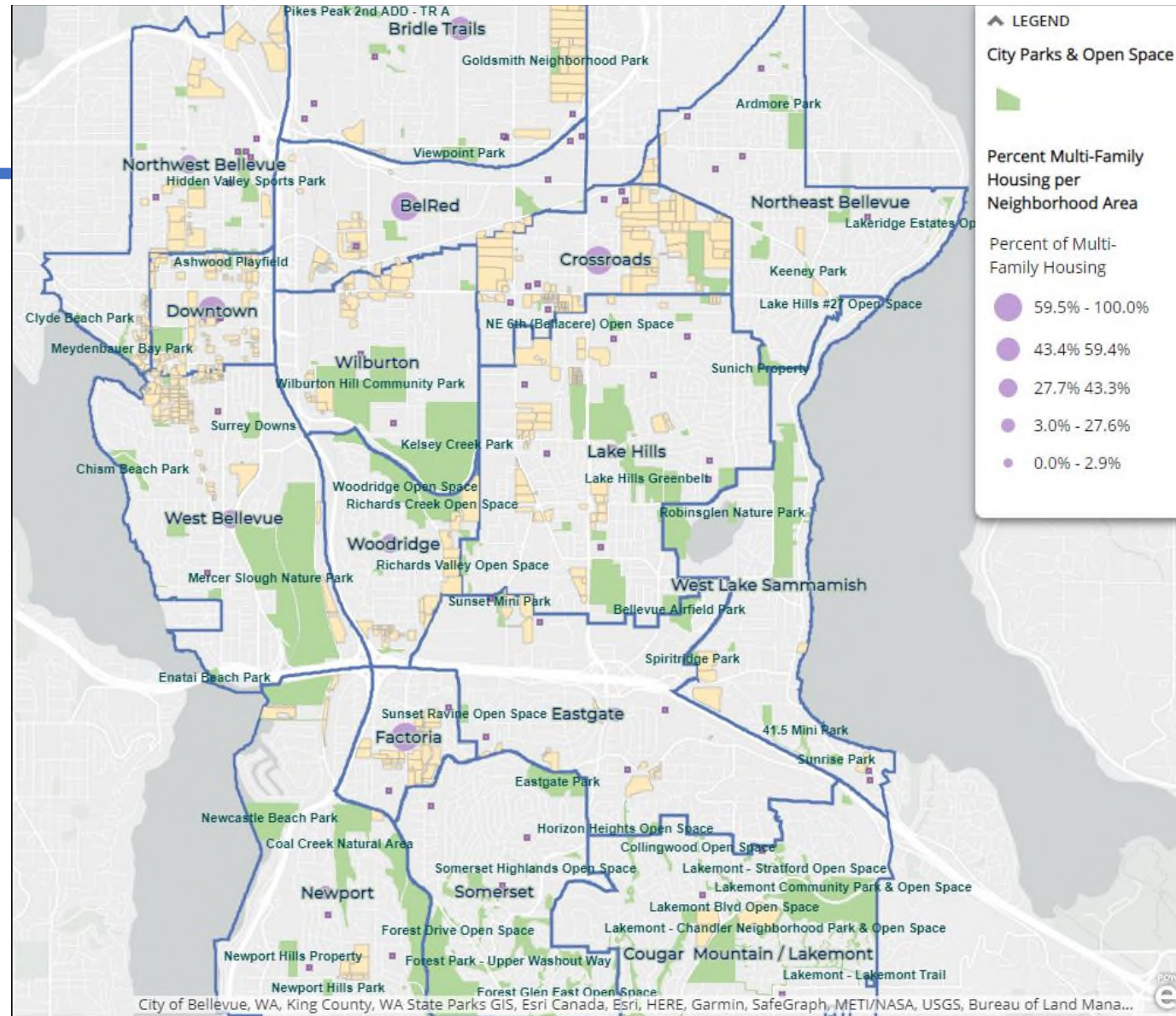
# Demographics





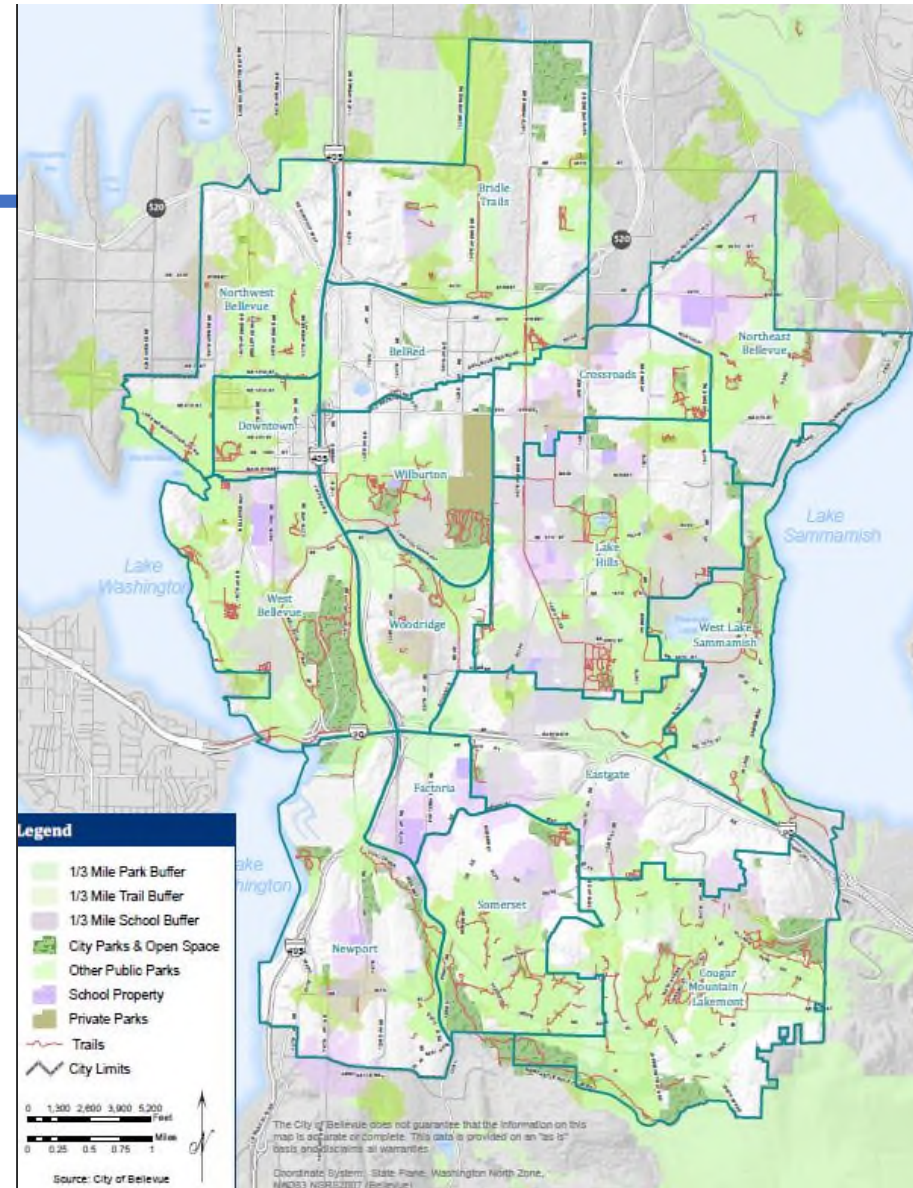
# Built Environment

- Density is increasing
- Over half of housing units are multi-family



# Walkable Access

- **Goal: Ensure that 100% of Bellevue residents are within 1/3 mile of a park, open space, or trail by 2050**
- **Currently, about 73.5% of residents meet this criteria**





# Public Outreach

## Many ways to participate

- Survey
- Submit feedback (web or direct to staff)
- Attend a meeting

The screenshot shows a public outreach website for the Bellevue Parks and Open Spaces System Plan. The header includes a navigation bar with 'Home' and 'Input for Parks and Open Spaces!'. The main content area is titled 'Input for Parks and Open Spaces!' and features social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Email. Below this, a paragraph explains the purpose of the survey: 'Do you want to help shape the future of Bellevue's parks and open space? Bellevue Parks and Community Services is updating the long-range Parks and Open Space System Plan and we want to hear from you.' It then describes the plan's scope and provides a list of survey questions: 'What do you like about the parks system and what might you like to see more of?', 'How can we provide safer and expanded access to parks and trails?', and 'What can be done to ensure that we are reaching all populations in Bellevue?'. A call to action states: 'Please take 5 minutes and share your input for the Parks and Open Space System plan! The survey will be available through November 8th. It is available in Chinese (simplified and traditional), English, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.' Below this is a blue icon of a clipboard with two green checkmarks. A link labeled 'PARKS AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM SURVEY' is provided. A navigation bar with 'MAP' and 'IDEAS' tabs is visible. The 'MAP' tab is selected, showing a map of Bellevue with labels for Lake Washington, Medina, Eastland, Bellevue, Overlake Hospital Medical Center, and various streets. The map is credited to 'mapbox'. On the right side, there are four sidebar sections: 'Key Dates' (Neighborhood Leadership Gathering: Parks and Open Spaces, October 07 2021), 'Who's Listening' (Ryan Walker, Planner, Parks and Community Services, with contact information), 'Documents' (a list of four documents: 2016 Parks and Open Space System Plan, Parks and Open Space System Map, Park Plan Capital Projects Map 2016, and Park Plan 1/3 Mile Access Map 2016), and 'Important Links' (Parks and Open Spaces System Plan Website). At the bottom right, a 'Lifecycle' section shows a timeline with three milestones: 'Spring 2021' (Project initiated and scoping completed), 'Summer 2021' (Initial meetings with Parks & Community Services Board; parks and open space inventory), and 'Fall 2021'.

Home » Input for Parks and Open Spaces!

## Input for Parks and Open Spaces!


f t in e

**Do you want to help shape the future of Bellevue's parks and open space?** Bellevue Parks and Community Services is updating the long-range Parks and Open Space System Plan and we want to hear from you.

Many of the Bellevue parks and trails we use and treasure today started as ideas in the parks plan! The parks plan provides guidance on all aspects of the parks, trails, and open space system throughout Bellevue, including areas for recreation and play, undeveloped spaces for exploring the natural world, trails that connect communities, and more. The parks plan provides direction specifically on the acquisition, development, and management of parks and open space.

- What do you like about the parks system and what might you like to see more of?
- How can we provide safer and expanded access to parks and trails?
- What can be done to ensure that we are reaching all populations in Bellevue?

**Please take 5 minutes and share your input for the Parks and Open Space System plan!** The survey will be available through November 8th. It is available in Chinese (simplified and traditional), English, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.



[PARKS AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM SURVEY](#)

MAP IDEAS

### Map Your Idea!

4 days

mapbox

**Key Dates**

Neighborhood Leadership Gathering: Parks and Open Spaces  
October 07 2021

**Who's Listening**

**Ryan Walker**  
Planner  
Parks and Community Services

**Phone** 425-452-4280  
**Email** rwalker@bellevuewa.gov

**Documents**

- ☐ 2016 Parks and Open Space System Plan
- ☐ Parks and Open Space System Map
- ☐ Park Plan Capital Projects Map 2016
- ☐ Park Plan 1/3 Mile Access Map 2016

**Important Links**

[Parks and Open Spaces System Plan Website](#)

**Lifecycle**

- ☒ **Spring 2021**  
Project initiated and scoping completed
- ☒ **Summer 2021**  
Initial meetings with Parks & Community Services Board; parks and open space inventory
- ☐ **Fall 2021**

# Project Timeline

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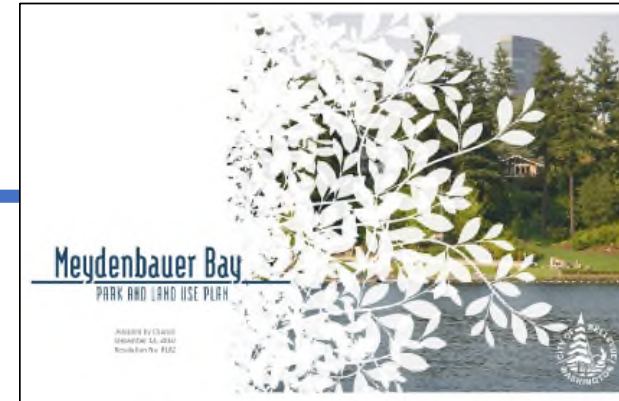




# Recent Projects



**Downtown Park improvements:**  
**Northeast gateway, circle completion,**  
**Inspiration Playground expansion**



**Meydenbauer Bay Park Phase 1  
construction and Phase 2 Plan**



# Recent Projects



**Surrey Downs Park  
development**

## Bridle Trails 140<sup>th</sup> Ave. Park planning





# Recent Projects



## Bellevue Aquatic Center Feasibility Study Update June 2020



## Aquatic Center Feasibility Update



**Acquisition of park property:**

**Lake Sammamish neighborhood park,  
Mercer Slough addition, and Newport Hills  
neighborhood park addition**

# Recent Projects



**Streetscapes  
Management**



**Facilities enhancement and renovation. Many projects each year.**





Bellevue Parks &  
Community Services

**What are your big ideas for  
our parks and open space system?**



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## **BREAKOUT ROOMS**



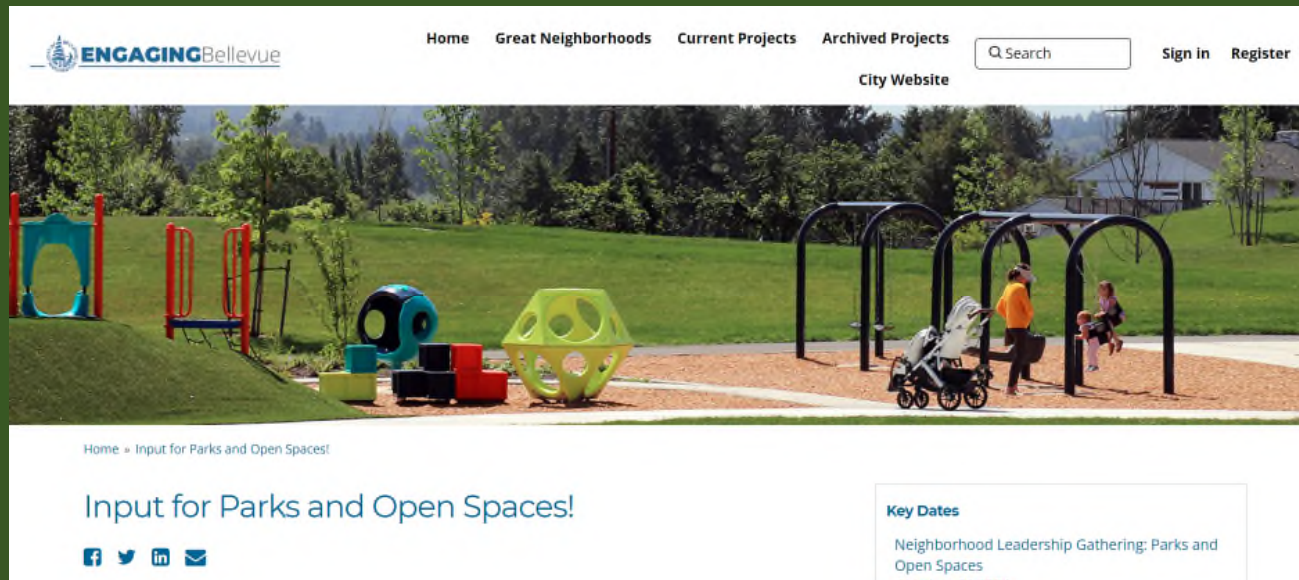


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## **BREAKOUT ROOMS** **Key Themes and Messages**



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**Engaging Bellevue Survey**  
**[engagingbellevue.com/parks-and-open-spaces](https://engagingbellevue.com/parks-and-open-spaces)**





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*Thank you!*



Bellevue Parks &  
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